

**Phone: 01865 223344**

SONeT is a dedicated neonatal transfer service across Thames Valley and Wessex, operating from two hubs; Oxford and Southampton. The neonatal intensive care units (NICU) in the region are;

**John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford**

Level 2, Newborn Care Unit  
Women Centre  
Headley Way  
OX3 9DU

**Car Park:** 2a or 2

**Telephone:** 01865 223201

**Princess Anne Hospital, Southampton**

D level, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit  
Coxford Road  
SO16 5YA

**Car Park:** Yellow car park

**Telephone:** 02381 208164

**Queen Alexandra Hospital, Portsmouth**

B6, Neonatal Intensive Care Unit  
Southwick Road,  
PO3 6LY

**Car Par:** Main entrance car park

**Telephone:** 02392 283231

If you have any comments about the SONeT service, please talk to a member of staff, use the feedback form that the team gives you or email us on Oxford Hub; [sonettransport@ouh.nhs.uk](mailto:sonettransport@ouh.nhs.uk) or Southampton Hub; [sonet@uhs.nhs.uk](mailto:sonet@uhs.nhs.uk)

**THAMES VALLEY AND WESSEX NEONATAL NETWORK**



**Hospitals in our Network (NICUs are in Bold)**

- 1) Milton Keynes University Hospital, Milton Keynes  
☎ : 01908 995591
- 2) **Oxford University Hospital, Oxford**  
☎ : 01865 223201
- 3) Stoke Mandeville Hospital, Aylesbury  
☎ : 01296 316115
- 4) Wexham Park Hospital, Slough  
☎ : 0300 6154533
- 5) Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading  
☎ : 0118 3227430
- 6) Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital  
☎ 01256 313686
- 7) **Queen Alexandra Hospital, Portsmouth**  
☎ 02392 283231
- 8) **Princess Anne Hospital, Southampton**  
☎ 02381 208164
- 9) Dorset County Hospital, Dorchester  
☎ 01305251150
- 10) Royal Bournemouth Hospital, Bournemouth  
☎ 03000 192330
- 11) St Richard's Hospital, Chichester  
☎ 01243788122
- 12) St Mary's Hospital, Newport, Isle of Wight  
☎ 01983 534337
- 13) Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust, Salisbury  
☎ 01722425180
- 14) Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester  
☎ 01256313686

# Southampton Oxford Neonatal Transport



## Parent and Carers Information Leaflet

This leaflet is to help you understand why your baby is being transferred to another hospital. It is also intended to give you information about the Southampton Oxford Newborn Emergency Transport (SONeT) Service.

Your baby's name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthweight: \_\_\_\_\_  
Your baby is being transferred to: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
The transport team is: \_\_\_\_\_ hub  
Nurse: \_\_\_\_\_  
Doctor/ANNP: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ambulance Driver: \_\_\_\_\_

We understand that this is an extremely stressful time for you, and we will try to help you in any way we can.

### Why is my baby being transferred?

Your baby is being transferred to another hospital either to receive specialist care (which is not possible where your baby is currently being cared for) or to move you closer to home with your baby (repatriation).

There are many reasons why a baby may be moved to other hospitals, the team caring for your baby and the SONeT team will explain the reasons in detail before your baby is moved.

### How is my baby cared for during transfer?

The doctors at your hospital will contact the SONeT transport team who will travel to the hospital in a specially equipped ambulance. The transport team has an ambulance driver, a nurse and a doctor or advanced neonatal nurse practitioner (ANNP) who are specially trained in caring for sick babies who are being transported. The team will review your baby and ensure they are stable and ready for transfer, this may involve starting some medications, inserting lines and helping your baby with their breathing.

### Explaining the transport equipment

The SONeT equipment provides everything needed to transport babies. The equipment includes;

- The incubator- a perspex enclosure around your baby, which will keep them warm and comfortable.
- The ventilator- breathing problems are one of the common reasons for transferring a baby. The ventilator will help to stabilise your baby's breathing.
- Monitors- during the transfer it is important that we monitor your baby's condition continuously. We measure heartbeat, breathing rate, temperature and blood pressure.
- Syringes for medication - Some babies need special medication or intravenous fluids, the SONeT team can provide these when necessary. We can also transfer any breast milk you have produced.

### *Your baby is in very safe hands*



When the SONeT team are ready to depart you will be able to see your baby. The team members will explain what treatment your baby is receiving and answer any questions you might have.

Please don't be scared to touch or kiss your baby.

### Being with your baby during transfer

The SONeT team will tell you if it is possible for you or your partner to accompany your baby during the transfer.

This depends on your medical status, your baby's condition, space and safety issues. If it is possible for you to travel, you can bring one small piece of hand luggage.

It may be that you will have to arrange your own transport to the hospital that your baby is being transferred to. The SONeT team will provide you with the hospital information and take your contact details. It is important that you **do not try to follow the ambulance** as it can be dangerous.

If you are still an inpatient at the hospital where your baby was born, it may be possible for your post-natal care to be transferred to the same new hospital. The timing of transfer will depend on your current condition and the transfer will be arranged by your local hospital.

The SONeT team will ring you when they have arrived at the receiving hospital with your baby to let you know they have arrived (if you are not with them). All hospitals encourage parents to ring and enquire about their baby. If you are unable to be with your baby, we suggest ringing 1-2 hours after your baby arrives at the receiving hospital. This allows the team to get your baby settled in and be able to give you a full update.

### Moving baby closer to home (repatriation)

When your baby no longer requires intensive care, the SONeT transport service will transfer your baby back to a hospital nearer your home. Your local hospital will support you and your baby until your baby is ready to be discharged home.

This will be discussed with you as well as with your local doctor and hospital. Please follow this QR code for a video that explains repatriation in more detail.

